

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 85

By Miller

A RESOLUTION concerning the abuse of tort law.

WHEREAS, the citizens of these United States have the right, protected by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS, lawsuits have been commenced against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, and importers of firearms which operate as designed and intended, which seek money damages and other relief for the harm caused by the misuse of firearms by third parties, including criminals; and

WHEREAS, the manufacture, importation, possession, sale, and use of firearms and ammunition in the United States are heavily regulated by federal, state, and local laws, including the Gun Control Act of 1968, the National Firearms Act, and the Arms Export Control Act; and

WHEREAS, businesses in the United States engaged in commerce through the lawful design, manufacture, marketing, distribution, importation, or sale to the public of firearms or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce are not, and should not be, liable for the harm caused by those who criminally or unlawfully misuse firearm products or ammunition products which function as designed and intended; and

WHEREAS, thirty-three states have passed legislation protecting firearms and ammunition manufacturers, and supporting legislation in Congress has broad bipartisan support; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the members of this General Assembly join together to urge that the

members of the United States Congress take steps to end tort law abuse against the firearms industry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to each member of the Tennessee congressional delegation with this final clause omitted from such copy.